

BENTON CONSOLIDATED HIGH SCHOOL
Benton, Illinois 62812
MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION
May 22, 2025

The Board of Education of the Benton Consolidated High School District #103 met in Regular Session on Thursday, May 22, 2025 at 5:30 P.M. in the District Board Room. President, Mark Minor called the meeting to order.

Mitch Bennett opened in prayer and Robin LaBuwi led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Board members present: Mark Minor, President; Marci Glover, Secretary; Robin LaBuwi, Stacia Sloan, Jay Copple, Mitch Bennett and Shane Cockrum.

Others present: Benjamin Johnson, Superintendent; Sean Docherty, Principal; Ron Giaccone, Board Attorney; Kenise Head, Recording Secretary; Jennie Ren, Student Council Representative; Visitors: Kyle Bacon, Brandi Kay, Kirk Kay, Shannon Hill, Camdyn Hill and Family, Kiley Docherty, Carrie Fuson, Kiley Cox and Courtney Cox.

4. (CLOSED) EXECUTIVE SESSION

4.1 Appointment/Compensation/Discipline/Performance of Personnel

4.2 Collective Bargaining ** Request to add by Mr. Minor

Jay Copple made the motion to enter into Executive Session to discuss the Appointment, Compensation, Discipline, and Performance of Personnel and Collective Bargaining. Robin LaBuwi seconded the motion. Upon a roll call vote, all members present voted yes. Motion carried.

The Board; Benjamin Johnson, Superintendent; Ron Giaccone, Board Attorney; and Kenise Head, Recording Secretary entered into an Executive Session in the executive board room at 5:32 P.M.

Open Session - The Board reconvened in an Open Session at 6:24 P.M. Marci Glover, Secretary called the roll. Answering present: Mark Minor – yes, Shane Cockrum – yes, Jay Copple – yes, Stacia Sloan – yes, Robin LaBuwi – yes, Mitch Bennett – yes, and Marci Glover – yes.

Others present: Benjamin Johnson, Superintendent; Sean Docherty, Principal; Ron Giaccone, Board Attorney; Kenise Head, Recording Secretary; Visitors: Brandi Kay, Kirk Kay, Shannon Hill, Camdyn Hill and Family, Kiley Docherty, Carrie Fuson, Kiley Cox and Courtney Cox.

5. CONSENT AGENDA

5.1 Approve Minutes:

Regular Board Meeting Minutes, April 17, 2025
Executive Board Meeting Minutes, April 17, 2025
Special Board Meeting Minutes, April 22, 2025

5.2 Approve Financial Report (April 2025)

5.3 Approve Payment of Bills (April 2025)

5.4 Review/Approve SY 25-26 Field Trip List for Overnight/Out of State Trips (ENCL A)

5.5 Review/Approve Final Calendar for 2024-25 SY (ENCL B)

5.6 Approve Band/Color Guard/Rangler Girls/Choir Trip to Holiday World, Santa Claus, IN on May 31, 2025

5.7 Review/Approve MOU with BEA to mitigate cost of a Health Insurance Premium Assessment on behalf of the employees participating in the plan. (ENCL C)

5.8 Review/Approve MOU with Cafeteria Employees to mitigate cost of a Health Insurance Premium Assessment on behalf of the employees participating in the plan.

5.9 Review/Approve MOU with Bus Drivers to mitigate cost of a Health Insurance Premium Assessment on behalf of the employees participating in the plan.

5.10 Review/Approve MOU with Custodial and Maintenance Employees to mitigate cost of a Health Insurance Premium Assessment on behalf of the employees participating in the plan.

5.11 Review/Approve 2025-2026 Consolidated District Plan (ENCL D)

5.12 Review/Approve Surplus Property (ENCL E)

5.13 Approve Girls Track trip to Atomic City, Paducah, KY on May 29, 2025

Robin LaBuwi made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda as presented. Jay Copple seconded the motion. Upon a roll call vote, board members voted as follows: Shane Cockrum – yes, Mitch Bennett – yes, Marci Glover – yes, Robin LaBuwi – yes, Jay Copple – yes, Stacia Sloan – yes, and Mark Minor – yes. Motion carried. A copy of ENCL A, B, C and D have been attached to and made a part of these minutes.

At the request of the board, the agenda was adjusted to address item 9.9 under New Business.

9.9 Review/Approve Separation Agreement with Licensed Teacher James Eldridge Jay Copple made a motion to approve the Separation Agreement with Licensed Teacher James Eldridge. Shane Cockrum seconded the motion. Upon a roll call vote, all members present voted yes. Motion carried. A copy of this Separation Agreement has been attached to and made a part of these minutes.

6. ADMINISTRATIVE REMARKS

Mr. Johnson commented on the following:

- Project updates
- Benton 47 track will be undergoing significant repairs this year. BCHS has an intergovernmental agreement with Benton 47 and will be responsible for a portion of those repair costs.
- Ms. Martin provided the results from her Senior Class – Plans After High School survey

Mr. Docherty and Mr. Miller provided a written report.

Mr. Garner shared a monthly athletic newsletter to staff and board members emails.

7. COMMENTS FROM VISITORS

8. OLD BUSINESS

8.1 Approval of an Activity Account Expenditure Robin LaBuwi made a motion to approve the Activity Account Expenditure paying Aaron Lewis for his work on the Hall of Fame booklet. Jay Copple seconded the motion. Upon a roll call vote, all members present voted yes. Motion carried.

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9. NEW BUSINESS

9.1 Assignment of Personnel Shane Cockrum made a motion to approve Jenny Schlag as Class of 2029 Sponsor. Jay Copple seconded the motion. Upon a roll call vote, all members present voted yes. Motion carried.

Shane Cockrum made a motion to approve Ron Winemiller, Andy Sloan, Aaron Webb, Joe Smith, Preston Trill and Heather Young as Part Time Summer 2025 Driver's Ed Instructors as needed. Robin LaBuwi seconded the motion. Upon a roll call vote, members voted as follows: Stacia Sloan – abstain, Jay Copple – yes, Robin LaBuwi – yes, Shane Cockrum – yes, Marci Glover – yes, Mark Minor – yes and Mitch Bennett – yes. Motion carried.

Robin LaBuwi made a motion to approve Lori Craven as Temporary Part Time Summer 2025 Secretary as needed. Stacia Sloan seconded the motion. Upon a roll call vote, all members present voted yes. Motion carried.

Mitch Bennett made a motion to approve Melanie Webb as Temporary Part Time Summer 2025 Secretary as needed. Shane Cockrum seconded the motion. Upon a roll call vote, all members present voted yes. Motion carried.

Robin LaBuwi made a motion to approve Cheryl Ort as a Temporary Part Time Summer 2025 Custodian as needed. Mitch Bennett seconded the motion. Upon a roll call vote, all members present voted yes. Motion carried.

Robin LaBuwi made a motion to approve Russ Hobbs as a Volunteer Assistant Boys Basketball Coach for the 2025-26 SY. Jay Copple seconded the motion. Upon a roll call vote, all members present voted yes. Motion carried.

Jay Copple made a motion to approve Gabby Peterson as a Volunteer Assistant Pom Pon Coach for the 2025-2026 SY. Mitch Bennett seconded the motion. Upon a roll call vote, all members present voted yes. Motion carried.

Jay Copple made a motion to accept Chris Head's Resignation as Head Baseball Coach effective May 10, 2025 as presented. Mitch Bennett seconded the motion. Upon a roll call vote, all members present voted yes. Motion carried.

9.2 Employment of Personnel Robin LaBuwi made a motion to approve Kirklyn Kay, Keith Farmer, Samuel Bautista, Tanner Smith and Briggs Miller as Summer 2025 Student Workers as needed. Stacia Sloan seconded the motion. Upon a roll call vote, all members present voted yes. Motion carried.

Shane Cockrum made a motion to employ Mary Ann Boyt as a Part Time Art Instructor for the 2025-26 SY. Jay Copple seconded the motion. Upon a roll call vote, all members present voted yes. Motion carried.

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Stacia Sloan made a motion to employ Levi Pearce as a Teacher's Aide for the 2025-26 SY. Robin LaBuwi seconded the motion. Upon a roll call vote, all members present voted yes. Motion carried.

Mitch Bennett made a motion to employ Amanda Anderson as Athletic Secretary for the 2025-26 SY. Shane Cockrum seconded the motion. Upon a roll call vote, members voted as follows: Mark Minor – yes, Mitch Bennett – yes, Jay Copple – yes, Stacia Sloan – yes, Marci Glover – yes, Robin LaBuwi – no, and Shane Cockrum – yes. Motion carried

Jay Copple made a motion to employ Brad Wilson as Head Cross Country Coach for the 2025-26 SY. Stacia Sloan seconded the motion. Upon a roll call vote, all members present voted yes. Motion carried.

9.3 Review/Approve Posting of Open Positions Robin LaBuwi made a motion to approve the posting of Head Baseball Coach and Assistant Cross-Country Coach for the 2025-26 SY. Jay Copple seconded the motion. Upon a roll call vote, all members present voted yes. Motion carried.

9.4 Review/Approve Computer Network Specialist Contract Robin LaBuwi made a motion to approve the Computer Network Specialist Contract for Cameron McClellan as presented. Jay Copple seconded the motion. Upon a roll call vote, all members present voted yes. Motion carried. A copy of the Resolution has been attached to and made a part of these minutes.

9.5 Review/Approve Bookkeeper Contract Jay Copple made a motion to approve the Bookkeeper Contract for Kenise Head as presented. Shane Cockrum seconded the motion. Upon a roll call vote, all members present voted yes. Motion carried. A copy of the Resolution has been attached to and made a part of these minutes.

9.6 Approve Opt Out Request for College and Career Pathway Endorsement Shane Cockrum made a motion to approve the Opt Out Request for College and Career Pathway Endorsement as presented. Jay Copple seconded the motion. Upon a roll call vote, all members present voted yes. Motion carried.

9.7 Review/Approve Worker's Comp Proposal Robin LaBuwi made a motion to approve the Worker's Comp Proposal from WCSIT as presented. Mitch Bennett seconded the motion. Upon a roll call vote, all members present voted yes. Motion carried.

9.8 Review/Approve Purchase of Video Display/Scoreboards Robin LaBuwi made a motion to approve the purchase of Daktronics Video Display/Scoreboards for the Rich Herrin Gymnasium, East Gym and Tabor Field. Shane Cockrum seconded the motion. Upon a roll call vote, all members present voted yes. Motion carried. A copy of this purchase agreement will be attached to and made a part of these minutes.

10. FOIA REQUESTS

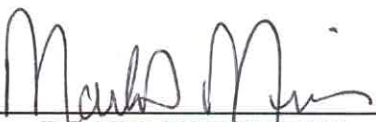
- Spreadsheet containing all purchase orders from January 1, 2020 to present day. We responded that we did not have this in an easily accessible format.
- General purchasing records from 08/23/2024 to the current request date of 05/07/2025. The request was made by a company named SmartProcure. We provided the information as requested.
- General purchasing records from 01/01/2022 to the current request date of 05/07/2025. The request was made by Civic IQ Inc. We provided the information as requested.

11. BOARD OF EDUCATION REMARKS

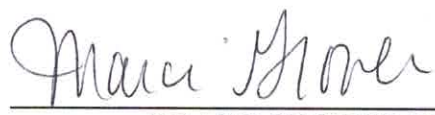
Stacia Sloan commended the Class of 2025 Sponsors for their great efforts with graduation.

Board members shared positive feedback on the 2025 graduation ceremony, including compliments on the new HVAC and sound system in the Rich Herrin Gym.

12. ADJOURNMENT Jay Copple made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 6:57 P.M. Mitch Bennett seconded the motion. Upon a roll call vote, all members present voted yes. Motion carried.



BOARD PRESIDENT



BOARD SECRETARY